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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics


Supplement No. 1, Revised August, 1937
to
Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 103, Revised August, 1937

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE CHIEF
OF THE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
FOR THE
INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF LIVE POULTRY AND LIVE DOMESTIC RABBITS

Under a Cooperative Agreement
Entered Into July 1, 1935 Between the
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and the New York State Bureau of Markets.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics contained in Section 1 of Regulation 2 of Service and Regulatory Announcement No. 103, Revised August, 1937, of the United States Department of Agriculture and in other sections and paragraphs of that publication, I, A. G. Black, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, do hereby issue the following instructions to be in force and effect on and after August 20, 1937, unless amended or superseded by instructions issued in lieu thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand in the City of Washington, D. C., this 17th day of August, 1937.



A. G. Black,
Chief of Bureau.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
FOR THE INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF LIVE POULTRY AND LIVE DOMESTIC RABBITS
FOR CLASS, QUALITY AND CONDITION.

Rule 1. Upon reporting for duty each morning, each inspector shall ascertain the number of cars and lots of live poultry and live domestic rabbits at the market, terminal or other point of inspection at which he is stationed or assigned that are ready for inspection and, when proper application for inspection has been filed by the applicants, he shall proceed to inspect them and issue certificates thereon as soon as possible so as to avoid unnecessary delay. Inspection of live poultry and live domestic rabbits shall be made only during the hours provided for in Rule 22 but in no case shall an inspection be made except under lighting and other conditions that will permit a proper examination of the product to be made. Inspections shall be made only at the places designated by the supervising inspector. Inspections shall be made as nearly as possible in the order in which applications are received except that applications for appeal inspections shall take precedence and that applications by a state or municipal officer may take precedence over other applications. In the case of live poultry or live domestic rabbits that are loaded on cars or trucks, the inspectors will accept applications for inspection when made by the receiver or by his authorized representative but not when made by the carman or truck driver unless he presents evidence that he has authority to act for the shipper or owner thereof. Inspector may require that all persons, except the carman, be excluded from a car or that all persons shall withdraw from the immediate vicinity of any lot of product during the inspection.

Rule 2. In the inspection of a carload of live poultry for condition at least 200 birds shall be selected as a sample and be handled to determine the condition of the crops. Unless the condition of the crops is clearly indicated by the first 200 birds examined, a sufficient number of additional birds shall be selected and examined by the inspector to insure an adequate determination of the lot with respect to crop condition. If the lot inspected be less than a carload, a sufficiently large sample shall be examined by the inspector to insure thorough inspection of the lot.

Rule 3. The birds or rabbits selected as the sample for inspection shall be taken from as many different layers in a car or coops in a lot as possible and the layers or coops sampled shall be in different parts and heights of the car or lot to insure that the sample examined is representative of the lot and of each unit class of poultry or rabbits in the lot. Unit classes of live poultry or live domestic rabbits for purposes of inspection as such under this or other rules of the Chief of Bureau, shall be considered to be the different classes of such product in the lot.

Rule 4. The birds selected as a sample for determining the condition of crop shall be handled individually and each crop felt with the hand to enable the inspector to estimate the weight in ounces of feed in the crop of each bird examined. Count shall be kept of the number of crops containing 1 ounce of feed or less, over 1 and not over 2 ounces, over 2 and not over 4 ounces, over 4 and not over 6 ounces, over 6 and not over 8 ounces, and over 8 ounces. A record shall be made of the number of each and from these data an average of the weight of the crops in a car or lot or in a unit class comprising part of

a car or lot shall be determined. In making calculations to determine the average weight of the crops of all the birds examined or the average weight of the crops of the birds from a unit class examined as the sample, the inspector shall use the following factors by which to multiply the number of birds in each range of crop weights: 1 ounce or less, $1/2$; over 1 ounce but not over 2 ounces, 1; over 2 but not over 4 ounces, 3; over 4 but not over 6 ounces, 5; over 6 but not over 8 ounces, 7; and over 8 ounces, 9.

Rule 5. The condition of health of the live poultry or live domestic rabbits in a lot shall be carefully noted; first, by observing the lot from the outside as they appear in the car layers or in the coops or baskets; and second, by observing the condition of all the birds or rabbits in each layer, coop or basket as the samples are selected and by observing carefully health conditions of the particular birds or rabbits selected for individual examination.

Rule 6. The condition and contents of the car or the coops, dead birds or rabbits and the condition of the droppings shall be observed with reference to the condition of health of the birds or rabbits or for any evidence of improper feeding or of the use of improper food.

Any information with respect to adverse weather conditions encountered, number of birds or rabbits that died enroute and at destination, or other information that may be pertinent to a better understanding of the condition of a lot of product examined shall be noted on the inspection certificate.

The inspector shall ascertain when practicable from the carman, the truckman or the applicant, the original shipping point, the shipper's name and address, and the quantity of each class in the lot inspected.

Rule 7. If after examination of a sufficient number of birds in a lot to represent the lot adequately, the weight of the crops is found to average not to exceed 1 ounce for broilers weighing not over $2-1/2$ pounds, 2 ounces for ducks and all other classes of chickens and 3 ounces for turkeys and geese, and if the condition of health is found to be satisfactory, or in the case of live domestic rabbits the condition of health is found to be satisfactory, the inspector may certify and approve the lot for transfer into coops, if it be in a car, and for sale and furnish official labels to be attached to the coops that contain the lot or into which the lot has been transferred. Provided, that one or more of the unit classes of product comprising a lot may be certified and approved for transfer into coops and for sale and the coops containing them labeled with the official labels if they are found to be in proper condition upon inspection and regardless of the fact that other unit classes in the lot are not found to be in proper condition and are not certified and approved for transfer into coops and for sale.

If the average weight of the crops of a lot or unit class of live poultry is found to be greater than above specified, the lot or unit class shall not be certified and approved for transfer into coops or for sale until after again being inspected and certified not sooner than the following day except as it may later be certified on the same day under the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture governing appeal inspections. Provided, however, that if upon the inspection of a lot of live poultry the average weight of the crops is found to be greater than 3 ounces but not greater than 3.5 ounces in the case of turkeys and geese; or greater than 2

ounces but not greater than 2.5 ounces in the case of ducks and all classes of chickens other than broilers; or greater than 1 ounce but not greater than 1.5 ounces in the case of broilers weighing not to exceed 2-1/2 pounds, not more than one second or new inspection may be made of such lot on the same day if all original inspections for which applications then pending have been completed, but not until one and one-half hours have elapsed from the time the first inspection of the lot was completed and provided there has been no feeding of the lot since the first inspection. If upon such second or new inspection the average crop weight is found to be not more than 2.8 ounces in the case of turkeys and geese, not more than 1.8 ounces in the case of ducks and all classes of chickens other than broilers, or not more than .8 ounces in the case of broilers, the lot may be certified and approved for transfer into coops or for sale.

In case the inspector finds a condition of health of a lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits about which he is doubtful, he shall withhold certification of the lot until he has made a report to the supervising inspector and a further examination of the lot has been made as directed by the supervising inspector.

In case the inspector finds the condition of health of a lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits to be unsatisfactory, he shall withhold certification of the lot and shall report his findings to the supervising inspector who shall in turn make a report of it to the proper municipal, state or other public authorities for determination of the disposition of the lot.

Live poultry with the following symptoms shall be deemed unfit for consumption:

1. Birds with one or both eyes swollen and closed and showing serous or cheesy exudates or cyanotic mucuous membranes.
2. Birds that are sneezing, coughing, or gaping and have ruffled or unclean feathers.
3. Birds that have empty crops with dark combs and below normal weight, or with abnormally thin breasts, or which assume a hunched up position.
4. Birds with yellow colorations about their beaks and that have little or no flesh on their breasts.
5. Birds with fractures and showing extensive lacerations or hemorrhagic areas under the skin.
6. Birds showing prolapsed rectum with necrosis or bruised and bleeding.
7. Birds with dropped abdomen due to pressure of fluid, hernia, tumor, or retained ova.
8. Birds that do not eat but have large hard crops and that are poor in flesh.
9. Birds with necrotic patches about the mouth or comb and wattles and that are thin in flesh.
10. Birds that show a pasty gray semi-solid fecal mass adhering to feathers about the anus, or have a fetid green or brown watery discharge, or ulcerated vents.
11. Birds showing twisted necks or paralysis.
12. Birds showing any other symptoms of a seriously diseased condition.

Live domestic rabbits with the following symptoms shall be deemed unfit for consumption:

1. Advanced snuffles with offensive odor.
2. Multiple abscesses, wounds, bruises, or open sores.
3. Diarrhoea.
4. Bloating.
5. Rabbits known to have been inoculated with any virus or toxin.
6. Ear canker, as indicated by inability to stand or having a rolling motion.
7. Ascites, or dropsical condition.
8. Extremely thin fleshed.
9. Paralysis.
10. Rabbits showing advanced stages of mange or scab.
11. Rabbits in advanced stages of gestation. Rabbits coming under this classification but otherwise in good condition, instead of being destroyed and denatured, may be segregated and released to a grower, shipper, or other authorized person. After they have given birth to their young and are in proper condition they may be again offered for inspection.
12. Pneumonia, indicated by rapid or labored breathing, cough, nasal discharge, etc.
13. Any acute or septic condition with accompanying febrile reaction or other definite symptoms of illness.
14. Rabbits showing any other symptoms of a seriously diseased condition.

Before issuing an inspection certificate on a lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits inspected, the inspector shall cause any birds or rabbits that show any of the above described symptoms and therefore are unfit for consumption to be removed from the lot and killed. He shall make notation on the inspection certificate of the number and weight of such poultry or rabbits killed. When health authorities for the municipality or State are not available to see that the carcasses of such birds or rabbits are denatured or destroyed, the inspector shall use his best services to insure that this is done.

Certification and approval of the crop and health condition of a lot of live poultry or of the health condition of a lot of live domestic rabbits shall be contingent upon the subsequent segregation of any poultry or rabbits that appear to be unfit for consumption and are noticed by the applicant or any person having a financial interest in the poultry or rabbits in question and the holding of this poultry or rabbits at the point of inspection in especially marked coops for further examination by an inspector. Certification and approval of the lot shall be withdrawn upon complaint of any person having a financial interest in the poultry or rabbits in question that any poultry or rabbits that appear to be unfit for consumption are not being so segregated when they are pointed out. Certification and approval of the lot shall be deemed to be withdrawn until such time as the inspector may determine that the individual birds or rabbits in question have been segregated or until the unloading or further examination of the lot may be carried out by an inspector or under his direct supervision.

Certification by an inspector for transfer into coops or for sale of any lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits, where the condition of health of the lot is found to be unsatisfactory shall not be given except

when the transfer or delivery is undertaken under the direction of or with the approval of a representative of the municipality, city or state having jurisdiction. Inspectors will cooperate to the fullest extent possible with all municipal, city and state authorities when an unsatisfactory condition of health is encountered in a lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits.

Rule 8. When a car of live poultry is inspected and, because of overcropping, it cannot be certified and approved for transfer into coops and the car is so heavily loaded that in the opinion of the inspector, the health of the birds, if held in the car, is likely to suffer because of weather or other conditions, and the receiver of the car makes application to the supervising inspector for the privilege of lightening the car, the supervising inspector shall have authority to grant such permission and to determine the amount of poultry that may be removed from the car under the supervision of an inspector. The poultry removed for such purpose shall not be in an over-cropped condition.

Rule 9. When a car of live poultry or live domestic rabbits that is on track at a terminal and has not been inspected or that has been inspected and not certified and approved for transfer into coops shows evidence of a diseased condition of an infectious character and, if the condition seems likely to spread rapidly to the healthy birds or rabbits in the car, the inspector shall report this condition to the supervising inspector who may, upon notification to and consent of the proper municipal, city or state authorities, certify and approve the unaffected birds or rabbits in the car for transfer into coops under the supervision of an inspector. The supervising inspector also shall use his best offices to effect as prompt action as possible in the unloading of the car.

Rule 10. When turkeys and other birds are known to have been watered by force they shall not be inspected and certified on the same day they are so watered. Ducks and geese shall not be inspected and certified when the plumage is wet or smeared with feed material.

Rule 11. A lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits shall not be inspected unless the feed troughs are empty and turned over, the decks or coops containing the poultry have been cleaned of feed and, in the case of a carlot, all feed has been removed from the car.

Rule 12. When there is evidence that feedstuffs other than those generally used for fattening purposes have been fed or that any whole wheat, ground wheat, flour, sand, gravel, grit, granite, oyster shell, salt, bread, pepper, potash or any unnatural feedstuff have been fed, the lot of live poultry to which it has been fed shall not be certified for condition prior to 24 hours after such determination.

Rule 13. The feeding of any lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits in a car or in coops after they have been inspected and prior to delivery shall void the certificate and in the case of live poultry or live domestic rabbits in cars, shall nullify the certification and approval of the lot for transfer into coops or for sale. If any live poultry or live domestic rabbits in coops to which coop tags have been affixed are found to have been fed after

they have been inspected, and prior to delivery, such coop tags shall be removed or defaced and certification of such lots or parts of lots as have been fed shall be withdrawn.

Rule 14. Certification and approval of any lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits for condition or certification and approval for transfer into coops or for sale shall not extend beyond the day on which the inspection was made. Upon failure of any lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits upon inspection, to be certified and approved for condition, or upon withdrawal or nullification for cause of any certification and approval previously given, no new inspection shall be made of such lot until the subsequent day, except as an appeal inspection may be made in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, or except as provided in RULE 7.

Rule 15. When any receiver or other person transfers from a car into coops any live poultry or live domestic rabbits that have not been inspected and certified for such transfer or on which a certificate previously issued has been voided, or sells any live poultry or live domestic rabbits that have not been inspected or on which a certificate previously issued has been voided, the inspector shall immediately report that fact to the supervising inspector who in turn shall notify the Bureau and the proper municipal, or state authorities.

Rule 16. Upon completion of an inspection of one or more lots for an applicant, an inspection certificate covering the lot or lots shall be made out in duplicate, or triplicate as may be necessary, with all indicated information fully stated thereon. The original or duplicate of the certificate shall be delivered to the applicant or to his authorized representative, or the results of the inspection may be communicated to him by telephone or otherwise. The hour of notification of the applicant or his authorized representative of the result of the inspection shall be noted on the certificate and on the duplicate. The original or the original and the duplicate copy, if the certificate is made in triplicate, shall be delivered to the supervising inspector who shall keep the original or the duplicate copy on file at his office and shall have as many additional copies made from them as are necessary. One copy of each certificate issued covering a carlot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits shall be sent promptly to the shipper when he is known; one copy of each certificate issued shall be sent promptly to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at Washington, D. C., and copies may be furnished to such other persons or agencies as are entitled to receive them. A code number may be used for the shipper's name on the additional copies of the certificates made in the supervising inspector's office.

Rule 17. Should an inspector lose any of the inspection certificate blanks that have been supplied to him, he shall immediately report the loss to the supervising inspector giving the numbers of the missing certificates. If a certificate is spoiled in filling it out, it shall be marked void across its face and be delivered, with all copies attached, to the supervising inspector with copies of all the certificates issued on that day.

Rule 18. Section 11 of Regulation 4 of Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 103 Revised (August, 1937) provides that "Inspections for class, quality and condition shall be based upon the official and tentative standards of the

U. S. Department of Agriculture and be made under such conditions and in accordance with such methods as may be prescribed or approved by the Chief of Bureau". Inspections of live poultry and live domestic rabbits for class, quality and condition, shall be based upon such standards and grades and be made under such conditions as are contained in these instructions governing the inspection of live poultry and live domestic rabbits or which may be prescribed in later instructions, unless written authority is given to employ other standards. Methods and procedure of inspections employed shall be such as are recommended or approved by the Specialist in Charge of the Division of Dairy and Poultry Products of the Bureau.

Live poultry and live domestic rabbits shall be inspected only under such conditions as will permit a true and correct determination to be made of the class, quality and condition of the product by the inspector.

Rule 19. Unless written approval is given by the Chief of Bureau, or by the Specialist in Charge of the Division of Dairy and Poultry Products of the Bureau, inspections of live poultry or live domestic rabbits shall be made only for condition.

Rule 20. The following persons are hereby designated and given authority to pass upon applications for appeal inspections of live poultry or live domestic rabbits:

L. D. Ives, D. V. S.

Rob R. Slocum

Abraham Weinstein

Rule 21. Each appeal inspection of live poultry or live domestic rabbits shall be made by two inspectors when practicable and by such persons as are designated by the Supervising Inspector or the person passing on the application for the appeal inspection.

Rule 22. The regular hours of inspection for live poultry and live domestic rabbits shall be from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., except on Saturday when they shall be from 6 a.m. to 12 noon, provided, however, that other hours may be established by the supervising inspector when such hours are more desirable or necessary for the efficient and proper handling of the inspection work and to comply with the ordinances or regulations of a city or municipality in which the service is rendered.

The regular hours of inspection, as herein stated, may be extended by the Supervising Inspector, or by the Chief of Bureau, when there is a general shortage of live poultry or live domestic rabbits on the market or when other conditions prevail which would result in an industry emergency.

Inspections may be made during hours other than the regular hours stated herein or an extension of the regular hours, provided the application is approved by the Supervising Inspector and the inspection can be handled without detriment to the regular inspection service.

Rule 23. No carlot of live poultry arriving by rail before 8 a.m. from May 1 to September 30 and before 8:30 a.m. from October 1 to April 30, will be inspected on a given day unless the application for inspection for such lot is filed on that day with an inspector or the inspection office not later than

10 a.m. from May 1 to September 30 and not later than 10:30 a.m. from October 1 to April 30, standard or daylight time, whichever may be used officially by the municipality or city in which the inspection is requested to be made. For any carlot of live poultry arriving after 8 a.m. from May 1 to September 30 and after 8:30 a.m. from October 1 to April 30, application for inspection may be filed within 2 hours after such car is spotted at the unloading platform. Inspections will be made in the order in which applications are filed and if inspection of a particular car is not desired by the applicant when the car is reached in regular order, the application shall be considered as the last to be filed and inspection of such a car shall be deferred until the car is again reached for inspection in the regular order and if the inspection is not then desired, the car shall not be inspected on that day.

Rule 24. When live poultry or live domestic rabbits in a car that has been inspected, certified and approved for transfer into coops or baskets or when live poultry or live domestic rabbits in coops or baskets have been inspected, certified and approved for condition, there shall be affixed immediately and securely to each such coop or basket by an authorized inspector, or under his supervision, by means of approved paste or other approved adhesive an official label which shall bear the following:

1. The official names of the agencies performing the service.
2. The date of inspection, serial number of the label, and the number of the inspection certificate covering the particular lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits and if needed, the name of the city or place of inspection and the hour of inspection.
3. A statement that "the poultry or rabbits contained in this coop or crate are from a lot that was inspected and approved for condition under the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture governing the inspection and certification of live poultry and live domestic rabbits."
4. The facsimile signature of the inspector who made the inspection.

When live poultry or live domestic rabbits in coops or baskets have been inspected and cannot be certified and approved for condition, there shall be affixed immediately and securely to each such coop or basket by an authorized inspector, or under his supervision, by means of approved paste or other approved adhesive, an official label of pink color which shall bear the following:

1. The official names of the agencies performing the service.
2. The date of inspection, serial number of the label, and the number of the inspection certificate covering the particular lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits and, if needed, the name of the city or place of inspection and the hour of inspection.
3. The words "Not Approved" printed in conspicuous bold face type not less than 1/2 inch in height and a plain and conspicuous statement that "this label must not be removed from this coop nor be mutilated except by an inspector or under his supervision or with his approval."
4. The facsimile signature of the inspector who made the inspection.

When live poultry or live domestic rabbits in coops or baskets are offered for inspection and the coops, baskets, trucks and other equipment in which the live poultry or live domestic rabbits are handled after inspection

are determined by the inspector to be not in a reasonably clean or sanitary condition there shall be affixed immediately and securely to each such coop or basket by an authorized inspector, or under his supervision, by means of approved paste or other approved adhesive, an official label of yellow color which shall bear the following:

1. The official names of the agencies performing the service.
2. The date of inspection, serial number of the label, and the number of the inspection certificate covering the particular lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits and, if needed, the name of the city or place of inspection and the hour of inspection.
3. The words "Labeled for Cleaning and/or Disinfection" printed in conspicuous bold face type not less than 1/2 inch in height and a plain and conspicuous statement that "This equipment must not again be used for the handling of live poultry or live domestic rabbits until it has been properly cleaned or disinfected or both as required", and a plain and conspicuous statement that "this label must not be removed from the equipment to which attached nor be mutilated except by an inspector or other authorized person or under his supervision or with his approval".
4. The facsimile signature of the inspector who made the inspection.

A careful record shall be kept of the issuance and use of all such serially numbered official labels.

All applicants for inspection who handle live poultry or live domestic rabbits at railroad terminals or who have it inspected at regular places of business shall keep on hand and in suitable condition for use a supply of approved adhesive paste or other approved adhesive and a brush for applying it for use in affixing the official labels to coops of inspected and certified product. All applicants for inspection shall affix or assist in affixing immediately the official labels to the coops of inspected and certified product as directed by the inspector. Lack of cooperation on the part of any applicant in furnishing approved paste or other facilities for use in affixing the official labels or in affixing or assisting in affixing such labels shall be reported by the inspector to the Supervising Inspector.

Rule 25. All rules contained in this supplement that refer to the inspection and certification of live poultry or live domestic rabbits in cars or carlots shall, when applicable, apply also to any lot of live poultry or live domestic rabbits in less than carlots, on trucks, in coops or in baskets that have been inspected or for which an application for inspection has been filed.
